

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUCAR 02472 171215Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 HA-05
TRSE-00 CA-01 IO-13 /074 W
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R 130647Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9022
USICA WASHDC
INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 2472

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT--PARAS THREE, FOUR)

STATE FOR EUR/EE, INR, HA;
USICA FOR EU, PGN/R;
VIENNA FOR INS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SCUL, SHUM, PINT, RO
SUBJ: ROMANIAN RADIOTELEVISION EMPLOYEES FIRED FOLLOWING
APPLICATION TO EMIGRATE

1. EMBOFFS HAVE LEARNED FROM SEVERAL FORMER EMPLOYEES OF
ROMANIAN RADIOTELEVISION THAT OVER PAST SEVERAL MONTHS THEY
AND A NUMBER OF COLLEAGUES,
TOTAL NUMBER ESTIMATED BETWEEN 10-15 INDIVIDUALS, HAVE BEEN
FIRED AS A RESULT
OF THEIR EFFORTS TO EMIGRATE OR MARRY
FOREIGNERS.(ALL HAVE BEEN OSTENSIBLY FIRED FOR "PROFESSIONAL
INCOMPETENCE BUT BELIEVE
REAL REASON TO BE POLITICAL AND
RESULT OF UNPUBLISHED REGULATION WHICH SAYS THAT NO ROMANIAN
CITIZEN WITH IMMEDIATE RELATIVE LIVING ABROAD MAY WORK AT
RADIOTELEVISION.

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PAGE 02 BUCAR 02472 171215Z

2. ALL INDIVIDUALS CONCERNED WERE PARTY MEMBERS, AS WE
BELIEVE IS REQUIRED FOR ANY SUBSTANTIVE EMPLOYMENT AT
RADIOTELEVISION. ACCORDING TO REPORTS GIVEN BY
INDIVIDUALS TO EMBOFFS, THEY WERE ENCOURAGED TO
WITHDRAW PASSPORT APPLICATIONS AND REFUSING THAT
HAD PARTY MEMBERSHIP CANCELLED ALONG WITH LOSS OF JOBS.

(COMMENT: EXPULSION FROM PARTY IS INVARIABLE SANCTION AGAINST EMIGRATION OR MARRIAGE APPLICANTS WHO PERSIST IN THEIR REQUESTS; EMPLOYMENT SANCTIONS ARE USED IN LARGE NUMBERS OF CASES, BUT OUTRIGHT DISMISSALS ARE UNUSUAL.) AT LEAST ONE, GHEORGE POPA, HAS BEEN AT RADIOTELEVISION FOR TWENTY YEARS - FOLLOWING SEVEN YEARS AT "SCINTEIA" - AND HAS BEEN DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF FOREIGN PROGRAMMING, CHIEF OF RADIO HOLIDAYS, POLITICAL COMMENTATOR, AND CEAUSESCU'S INTERPRETER IN ITALIAN. WHEN HIS BROTHER EMIGRATED TO U.S. IN 1974, HE WAS DEMOTED TO MENIAL JOB AT ROMTV, AND WHEN HE, HIMSELF, APPLIED TO EMIGRATE LAST MONTH, HE WAS FIRED. HE WANTS TO GO TO THE U.S.

3. OTHER INDIVIDUALS OF WHOM WE ARE AWARE: SORIN CARP - HAS APPLIED TO MARRY AMCIT; CRISTIAN PUDROSKI - PRESENTLY IN TRAIKIRCHEN REFUGEE FACILITY OUTSIDE VIENNA; VIOREL RABU - WANTS TO EMIGRATE TO FRG; LAZLO EVELEI - ALSO WISHES TO EMIGRATE TO FRG; PETER TOMORI - WANTS TO EMIGRATE TO HUNGARY; FNU AURORA - WANTS TO EMIGRATE TO WEST GERMANY; FNU BOIANGJU - EMIGRATE TO ISRAEL.

4. POPA, RUBU AND EVELEI HAVE REPORTEDLY BROUGHT SUIT AGAINST ROMANIAN RADIO TELEVISION MAINTAINING THAT THEY HAVE BEEN DEPRIVED OF THEIR JOBS FOR POLITICAL REASONS, CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 BUCAR 02472 171215Z

I.E., THEIR DESIRE TO EMIGRATE, NOT FOR "PROFESSIONAL INCOMPETENCE" AS THEY WERE INFORMED, AND ASKING TO BE REINSTATED IN THEIR POSITIONS UNTIL THEY EMIGRATE SINCE THEY HAVE VIOLATED NO LAW AND SINCE THEIR PROFESSIONAL RECORDS OVER THE YEARS DEMONSTRATE NO CASE FOR INCOMPETENCE IN THEIR WORK PERFORMANCE. HEARING OF CASE WAS SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 7 BUT WAS POSTPONED FOR ABOUT TWO WEEKS SINCE, ACCORDING TO POPA, ROMTV LAWYER DID NOT APPEAR IN COURT AT SCHEDULED TIME.

5. AS FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE, WILL ADVISE. SIMONS

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NNN

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Draft Date: 13 apr 1978
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